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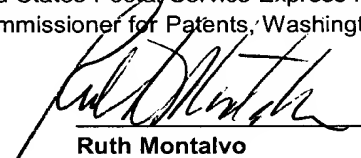
Deposited: December 26, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yoshihiko MAKINO, et al.

Group: 1655

Serial No.: 09/802,232

Examiner: F.W.M LU

Filing Date: March 8, 2001

Customer No.: 026418

For: **METHOD FOR TESTING COMPLEMENTATION OF NUCLEIC ACID**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

PETITION FOR TWO MONTH EXTENSION

Sir:

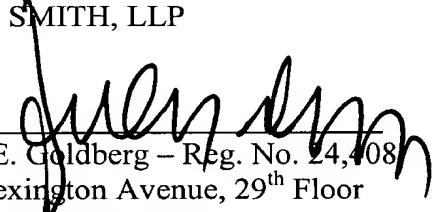
Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action mailed July 26, 2002. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$400.00.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1529.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH, LLP

December 26, 2002

By: 
Jules E. Goldberg - Reg. No. 24,408
599 Lexington Avenue, 29th Floor
New York, NY 10022
Tel. (212) 521-5403

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